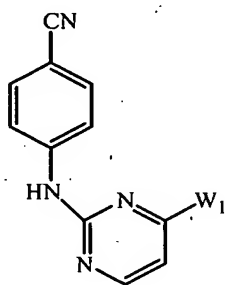


ABSTRACT

PROCESSES FOR THE PREPARATION OF 4-[[4-[[4-(2-CYANOETHENYL)-2,6-DIMETHYLPHENYL]AMINO]-2-PYRIMIDINYL]AMINO]BENZONITRILE

Processes for the preparation of 4-[[4-[[4-(2-cyanoethenyl)-2,6-dimethylphenyl]-amino]-2-pyrimidinyl]amino]benzonitrile of formula (I), a *N*-oxide, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt, a quaternary amine or a stereochemically isomeric form thereof are provided, said processes comprise :

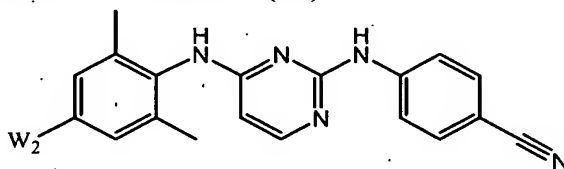
a) reacting 4-(2-cyanoethenyl)-2,6-dimethylbenzenamine with an intermediate of formula (III)



(III)

in the presence of a suitable solvent;

b) reacting an intermediate of formula (IV)



(IV)

with acrylonitrile in the presence of a suitable palladium catalyst, a suitable base and a suitable solvent;

c) dehydrating the corresponding amide of the compound of formula (I).